Message Text

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PASS COMMERCE FOR WEIL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, BTRA, US, JA

SUBJECT: TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE: JAPAN IMPORT PROMOTION MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES--U.S. PUBLICITY TREATMENT

1. AS WASHINGTON AGENCIES WILL HAVE NOTED FROM OUR CABLES, WE ARE TRYING TO ASSIST IN CREATING FAVORABLE RECEPTION FOR IMPORT PROMOTION MISSION DURING ITS FORTHCOMING VISIT. WE HOPE AMBASSADOR'S LETTER REQUESTING ASSISTANCE OF 500 HOME OFFICES OF ACCJ MEMBERS AND HIS MARCH 1 PRESS CONFERENCE WITH RESIDENT AMERICAN PRESS CORPS WILL BE HELPFUL.

2. THERE IS WIDESPREAD PUBLIC RECOGNITION HERE OF IMPORTANCE BOTH GOVERNMENTS ATTACH TO SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF MISSION. PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH EARLIER THIS WEEK URGING IMPORTS INTO JAPAN MUST BE CONSIDERED AN UNUSUAL STEP FOR THE LEADER OF A COUNTRY THAT HAS SO LONG CONCENTRATED ON "EXPORTING TO LIVE". WE HAVE EVERY EXPECTATION THAT WITH GOVERMENT'S ACTIVE SUPPORT INDIVIDUAL MISSION MEMBERS WILL DO THEIR BEST TO BUY WHAT THEY CAN. IN PUBLIC COMMENTS OUR REPRESENTATIVES WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO REMIND AMERICAN AUDIENCES THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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JAPAN IS FREE ENTERPRISE ECONOMY, THAT MISSION MEMBERS ARE RESPONSIBLE TO THEIR SHAREHOLDERS AND WILL OBVIOUSLY NOT BE BUYING PRODUCTS THAT ARE NOT NEEDED OR NOT PRICE COMPETITIVE FOR SALE IN JAPAN.

3. PURPOSE OF MISSION IS TO DEMONSTRATE JAPAN'S

INTEREST IN FINDING U.S. PRODUCTS AND TO DEMONSTRATE THAT JAPAN MARKET IS OPEN TO THEM. NUMBERS OF CONTRACTS THAT MAY BE CONSUMMATED DURING MISSION'S HECTIC TWO WEEKS IN SEVERAL U.S. CITIES WILL PROBABLY BE LESS IMPORTANT THAN CONTACTS MADE FOR LATER FOLLOW UP.

4. EMBASSY WILL SEEK TO DEVISE MEASURES FOR PERIODIC FUTURE REPORTS ON VOLUME OF TRADE GENERATED SPECIFICALLY BY MISSION. WE WILL MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACTS WITH MISSION MEMBERS ON A CONTINUING BASIS. MANSFIELD

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